

Please replace the paragraph at page 29, lines 20-27, as follows:

The peptides are not only presented in a straight-chain form (in an unconstrained or linear form), but also can be expressed in a form having a loop structure (in a constrained or loop form) by providing two cysteine residues at both ends of the sequence to form a disulfide bond. Accordingly, the peptide represented by CX₅C can be expressed by an oligonucleotide having the sequence TGT(NNK)₅TGT (SEQ ID NO:29).

Please replace the paragraph at page 29, line 28 to page 30, line 22, as follows:

PCR amplification was performed by using 5 µg of a synthetic oligonucleotide with a biotinylated 5' end, 5'-ACTCGGCCGACGGGGC-3' (SEQ ID NO: 15), and 5 µg of non-labeled synthetic oligonucleotide, 5'-TTCGGCCCCAGCGGCCCC-3' (SEQ ID NO: 16), as primers and 1 µg of synthetic oligonucleotide, 5'-ACTCGGCCGACGGGGCT(NNK)_nGGGGCCGCTGGGGCCGAA-3' (n = 4 to 15) (SEQ ID NO: 17-28), as a template to obtain a double strand. Taq DNA polymerase (Takara Shuzo) and an attached reaction buffer were used for PCR. A cycle composed of 95°C for 2.5 minutes, 50°C for 4 minutes and 72°C for 2.5 minutes was repeated five times in total to perform amplification and treatment at 72°C for 5 minutes was finally conducted. This PCR product was precipitated with ethanol and the obtained DNA was treated with 200 units each of *Nco*I and *Not*I (Takara Shuzo) at 37°C for 16 hours. Then, the biotinylated DNA fragment was removed by using Streptavidin Agarose (GIBCO BRL). The solution was subjected to phenol/chloroform extraction and chloroform extraction and DNA was precipitated with isopropanol. The obtained DNA was dissolved in sterilised water to obtain random insert DNA.

Please replace the paragraph at page 43, line 23 to page 44, line 15, as follows:

with 10 mM NaHCO₃, and rinsed once with 200 µl of TBS buffer. 100 µl of the phage solution prepared in Example 2, <4> was added to each well of the 96-well plate on which the NS4a peptide and the MBP-NS34a protein were immobilized, and incubated overnight at 4°C. Each well was washed with 200 µl of TBS buffer four times. Then, 50 µl of horseradish peroxidase (HRP)-conjugated sheep anti-M13 phage antibodies diluted 2000 times with 5% skim milk was introduced into each well and incubated at room temperature for 1 hour.

Page 54 (Abstract), after the last line, beginning on the next page, please delete the substitute Sequence Listing filed December 26, 2001, and replace it with the substitute Sequence Listing attached hereto.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are active in the present application.

Applicants have now submitted a substitute Sequence Listing and a corresponding computer-readable Sequence Listing. The sequence information recorded in the corresponding computer-readable Sequence Listing is identical to the paper copy of the substitute Sequence Listing. Support for all of the sequences listed in the substitute Sequence Listing is found in the present application as originally filed. No new matter is believed to have been introduced by the submission of the substitute Sequence Listing and the corresponding computer-readable Sequence Listing.